

JOB DESCRIPTION – Yarrows Taranaki Bulls Assistant Coach (Defence)

Coaching & Performance Delivery

- Assist in planning and delivering training sessions aligned to the Yarrows Taranaki Bulls game model
 - Implement technical and tactical components as directed by the Head Coach
 - Support match-day preparation, analysis, and review processes
 - Provide individual and unit feedback to players to support performance improvement
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Talent Identification & Development

- Support identification of emerging talent within the region
 - Liaise with club and representative coaches regarding player performance and progression
 - Contribute to succession planning across playing positions
 - Assist with monitoring and supporting players within the wider training group
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Leadership

- Demonstrate professional behaviour aligned with TRFU values (Ambitious, Integrity, Collaboration)
 - Support the Head Coach in maintaining a high-performance environment
 - Positively influence team standards, behaviours, and culture
 - Take ownership of assigned areas of responsibility within the programme
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Teamwork

- Work collaboratively with the Head Coach and wider management team
- Share information and insights to support collective decision-making
- Support and contribute to the work of other staff within the programme

Club / Representative Rugby

- Build and maintain relationships with club coaches across the region
- Attend and/or review club rugby matches as required
- Provide feedback and development support to identified players
- Liaise with Development Team coaching staff regarding player movement and progression

Team Culture, Vision & Goals

- Support the implementation of the team's vision, values, and standards
- Reinforce team protocols and behaviours across the playing group
- Contribute to a positive, inclusive, and high-performing team environment

Relationship Building

- Develop and maintain effective working relationships with internal and external stakeholders
- Communicate effectively with players, staff, and key partners
- Uphold and promote TRFU values in all interactions

Commercial Activity

- Support and participate in promotional and commercial activities as required
- Represent the Yarrows Taranaki Bulls programme in a professional manner

Defence Coach - Specific Responsibilities

- Lead the design, implementation, and review of the team's defensive systems and structures
- Plan and deliver defence-focused training sessions and unit work
- Analyse opposition attack trends and develop appropriate defensive strategies

- Provide detailed feedback and review of defensive performance (individual and team)
 - Work closely with the Performance Analyst to support defensive analysis and learning
 - Drive standards in areas such as tackle technique, line speed, spacing, and communication
 - Ensure alignment of defensive systems across squad and pathway teams where appropriate
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Skills, Experience & Education

- Proven rugby coaching experience, ideally within a high-performance or representative environment
 - Strong technical and tactical understanding of the game
 - Knowledge of current laws and interpretations
 - Analytical capability, including use of performance analysis tools
 - Willingness to learn and adapt within a high-performance setting
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Leadership & People Skills

- Ability to build strong relationships with players and staff
 - Effective at providing feedback and supporting player development
 - Strong organisational and time management skills
 - High level of empathy and interpersonal awareness
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Communication Skills

- Strong verbal and written communication skills
 - Ability to deliver clear, concise coaching messages
 - Confident in group and one-on-one settings
 - Able to manage challenging conversations constructively
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Qualifications

- Minimum of 3-5 years' experience as a Coach or Assistant Coach
- Relevant coaching qualifications
- Experience in a high-performance or representative rugby environment preferred